on proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) the efforts made to prescribed a certain number of quota for women in Panchayats, Planning Boards etc?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The National Conference on Panchayati Raj and Women was held on 3-4 May, 1989 in New Delhi.

(b) to (d). The general consensus was towards reservation for women in various for a like Panchayati Raj Institutions, Zila Parishads Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayats. The Ministry of Rural Development has already introduced the Constitution (Seventy-Second Amendment) Bill, 1991 in the Lok Sabha on 16.9.91 on reservation in Panchayats including reservation for women.

[*Translation*]

Railway Protection Force

*281. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to moot any plan to make the Railway Protection Force more effective to enhance security on the Railways; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Various measures are being taken from time to time to modernise the Force and to make it more efficient by equipping it with modern equipments, vehicles, arms and ammunition and training aids.

[*English*]

Drive Against Quack Doctors

*282. SHRI N. DENNIS:
DR. (SMT.) PADMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Union Government to check quack doctors, State-wise;

(b) whether the All India Medical Council has been consulted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c). Penal Provisions already exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956; in the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970; and in the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to the effect that no person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on the State Medical Register shall practise medicine in any State and any person contravening this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to Rs. 1,000 or both.

The Government of India have advised the State Governments/Union Territories to invoke the penal provisions to check practice by unqualified practitioners.

Medical Council of India is strongly opposed to the extension of any recognition to unqualified practitioners on the ground that it would encourage quackery.

Alleged Malpractice in ITDC Duty Free Shops

*283. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of complaints have been received about malpractices and revenue leakage in ITDC duty free shops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the remedial action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIAITON AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There have been some complaints about malpractices in ITDC Duty Free Shops. However, there are no complaints regarding revenue leakage.

(b) Five complaints regarding sale of imported liquor and other imported items to unauthorised persons, corruption, nepotism, etc. in Duty free shops at Delhi and Bombay Airports have been received in ITDC. Out of these five complaints, action has been taken/ is being taken by CBI in three cases, by Customs Authorities in one case, and by ITDC Management in one case.

(c) Strict controls are being enforced including surprise inspections and transfer of staff. Besides, billing and inventory systems are being computerised.

[*Translation*]

Sale of Tickets at Dullahpur Station

2967. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount realised from the sale of railway tickets at Dullahpur station on Varanasi Bhatni rail line during 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) whether there has been decline in the sale of railway tickets at this station during 1990-91; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to check this loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Total amount realised from sale of tickets at Dullahpur station during 1988-89 and 1989-90 was Rs. 34.45 lakhs and Rs. 40.81 lakhs, respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Fall in earnings in 1990-91 was due to disruption in regular train services on account of gauge conversion work and public agitation for long periods. Some cases of ticketless travelling were also noticed. Ticket checking is being intensified to check these losses.

[*English*]

Imposition of Pollution Fee

2968. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to impose pollution fee/cess on all sources of effluent discharge in proportion to the estimated damage caused to the environment; and

(b) if so, the broad features of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1991 has been passed by the Lok Sabha. This provides for increased cess rates on industries consuming water and which discharge untreated effluent, whereas industries with treated effluent are given rebate on cess. This is to encourage industry to install water pollution abatement facilities, as well as to conserve a scarce and valuable natural resource, namely fress water.